**About Shakespeare**  
Click on [this link](http://shakespeare.palomar.edu/timeline/timeline.htm) and answer the following questions (1-7).

1. William Shakespeare was born in what year?

* **Shakespeare was born in April of 1564.**

1. What date do we recognize as his birthday?

* **April 23rd is recognized as Shakespeare’s**

1. What was important about Stratford-upon-Avon in the 16th century?

* **Stratford-upon-Avon was an important agricultural center and market town in the sixteenth century.**

1. Click on the link for 1594 and find the acting companies Shakespeare was associated with in the early days. Name one.

**Shakespeare was associated with a few acting companies including *Lord Strange’s Men.***

1. Click on 1599 The Great Globe. What is the probable year that Romeo and Juliet was written?

**1595**

1. Scroll down to the section "Construction of the Globe," and answer these questions:
   1. Where did the timbers to build the Globe come from?

**Timbers from *The Theatre* were disassembled and used in construction of the globe.**

* 1. Who was the carpenter who built the Globe?

**Peter Smith.**

* 1. What was Shakespeare's share as "householder?"

**One-fifth- 50% of profits, 10% of total profits.**

1. What day and year did Shakespeare die? Why is this an *interesting* date? How old was Shakespeare when he died?

**Shakespeare died on April 23rd, 1616 at the age of 52. This is coincidental because it is probable that he was born around this time because as a newborn he was baptized on April 26th and it was customary then to baptize a baby days after birth.**

**About Marriage**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/9.html) and answer the next questions (8-10).

1. Romeo & Juliet marry secretly, but because she is trying to escape the arranged marriage to Paris. Read this site about marriage in Elizabethan England and answer these questions.
   1. What does betrothal mean?

**A betrothal is where marriage starts where two people join hands and the man gives the woman a ring which is worn on her right hand and the left after the wedding.**

* 1. Name three marriage and betrothal customs found on this page.
* **A kiss seals the contract of marriage.**
* **If a man breaks the marriage without good cause, he must return any gifts received.**
* **Betrothals can be ended with mutual consent.**

1. Click on the link for "more wedding customs."
   1. What color should the bride's dress be?

**The trend of having a white wedding dress didn’t become traditional until the 19th century so depending on her social status, would usually determine a woman’s wedding attire.**

* 1. How is the intention to marry announced? What happens if it is not announced previous to the event?

**The intention to marry must be announced in the church three times; that is, on three consecutive Sundays in the same church and if this does not happen, the marriage is considered illegal.**

* 1. Describe the wedding procession.

**The wedding procession is always a religious ceremony. Both parties all get ready and make their way to the church. Everyone enters the church at once. If the groom is not part of the procession, he meets the bride at the door of the church. Anyone can attend but social order is observed.**

* 1. What is a dowry?

**A dowry is the money, goods, or estate a woman brings to her husband in marriage.**

1. Explain how important is a wedding ring to the Elizabethans?

**They believe the gift of a ring displays one’s willingness to marry the other person. Some Elizabethans even believe that there is a vein in the ring finger that leads to the heart.**

**About Food**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/46.html) and continue (11-13).

1. How many meals do people generally eat each day? **2**

Click [here](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/38.html). Why would people in Shakespeare's day not know what a chocolate chip cookie is? **Chocolate had not came in yet. The Swiss had not yet added milk and sugar to it.**

1. Lord Capulet throws a huge party, feast and all. Imagine you are in charge of that menu. Luckily for you, today you only have to plan a menu for a small dinner party. Be sure to use only [food available in Europe](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/47.html) during this time. Choose at least two vegetables, two meats, and two fruits or nuts.

* Carrots
* Potatoes
* Beef
* Chicken
* Raisins
* Apples
* Almonds.